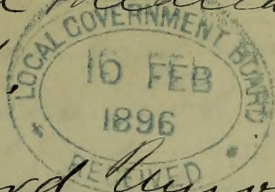


Health.



To the Castle Ward Union Rural District
Council.

18318
966

Mr Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have again the honor of presenting
to you my annual report on the health
and sanitary condition of the district
for the year 1895.

The estimated population to the
middle of June 1895 is 7623.52 Area of the
district in acres 85219

143 deaths were registered during
the year giving a death-rate of 15.1 of per
1000 per annum.

244 births were registered during the
same period giving a birth-rate of
26.6 per 1000 per annum Natural increase
of the population 10%. Of the deaths
57 were under five years of age and 92
were over 65. 18 were recorded from
the seven principal zymotic diseases
and calculated on the same popula-
-ion give a death rate of 1.8 per 1000 per
annum. Of the total number

deaths 48 were registered during the

	43	- - - - -	1 st quarter
	26	- - - - -	2 nd quarter
2	26	- - - - -	3 rd quarter
			4 th quarter

I might say I visited all cases

gave the necessary instructions.

Disinfection is not efficiently carried out in your district owing to several causes amongst which I might state

1st there is no place for the Cottagers to go to during the time of disinfection.

2nd we have no disinfectors. The

number of cases of infectious disease reported to me during the years 1892.

3, 4 & 5 have been 225, 71, 60 & 42 respectively.

I will now refer briefly to the infectious diseases coming under my notice and the steps taken to limit the extension of such diseases

Small-pox - none.

Whooping-cough. This disease being non-notifiable it is difficult to form any estimate as to its extent.

That it has prevailed in the parishes of Portland and ~~Stamford~~ Dinnington there is sufficient evidence. In passing I might say the type ^{has been} ~~is~~ different from what it usually is as the characteristic whoop was not a prominent symptom.

Measles is also a non-notifiable disease, there have been a few cases of German Measles but the ordinary form

have been notified to me against 42
the preceding year and 43 the year be-
fore. Of those 14 occurred in Ponteland
Parish 8 in Hamlington, 2 in Kirkheaton
5 in Stamfordham & 4 in Heddon on the
Wall. I might say in all cases they
were confined to the houses first attack-
ed and all with one exception appar-
ently originated de-novo as I enquired
into all the recognised cases without
success. At Hamlington children nam-
ed Stevenson suffered last year from
Scarlet Fever. They commenced to attend
School last November when after a few
days a child belonging to a man named
Reay sickened and got feverish when it
slowly spread to his other children. About
the same time 2 children in another
family were attacked by it in the same
parish and who had attended the same
School.

Croup. one death occurred from
diphtheric croup to a child recently im-
ported from Newcastle into your district.
The second death occurred at Heddon
from Catarrhal Croup.

Typhoid or Typhoid Fever. Three deaths
have been due to this disease. This of
all the infectious ailments is most
dependent on unsanitary conditions.
I regret to say the diagnosis is not
usually carefully made and I frequ-
ently find it confused with Easlin. Eas-

of childhood especially
of a severe type. Three of the five cases
notified to me have been due to defective
drainage which conditions,
are at present in charge of the Sanitary
Inspector. Of the other two one was
due to unripe fruit and the other occurred
in a three months old child.

Diarrhoea is as usual responsible
for a large number of deaths which
are in the main preventable that
as long as it is not dependent on
morbid conditions of the intestinal
canal. The mortality in your district
so far as I am aware is
largely dependent on debility and
improper feeding.

Before finishing this review of the
causes of mortality it may be
well to say that Phthisis which
an opprobrium to medical treat-
ment is very prevalent in districts
containing large tracts of marsh
and undrained land and is
advent is further hastened by all
debilitating causes such as
dampness of dwelling houses im-
proper or deficient diet hereditary
influence etc.

The difficulties of proper

I might say a Committee has been
formed to consider the advisability
of getting a high pressure steam
disinfectors and other requisites
for its greater efficiency. In con-
clusion I beg to thank you gentle-
man for the interest you have taken
in sanitation

I beg to remain, Gentlemen
yours obediently

L. H. Fitzgerald M.D.,
M.O.H.

